

FAMILY CIVIC ENGAGEMENT INITIATIVE

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

The following is a list of questions received from various school districts regarding the FCE initiative; answers are being supplied by members of the FCE steering committee. The Q &A will be updated as new questions come in.

Questions can be submitted to fcfc.info@hamilton-co.org

Question: We need assistance making connections with .agencies in our community. How can we garner support from the resources?

Answer: Finding and connecting with community resources is one of a Coordinator's primary responsibilities. That is why Family and Children First strongly recommends that every school building have a coordinator, if possible. Ideally, a coordinator should be someone who has full time responsibility for locating, recruiting, monitoring, overseeing and coordinating community resources that are brought into the building. If funding a coordinator at the building level is not possible, it would be best to have the Family Civic Engagement Coordinator take initial responsibility for initiating contact with community agencies and then linking them to some staff person in each school building that has responsibility for coordination of resources.

Question: can you send me the template electronically that I will need to complete for this process?

Answer: Here is the link to the FCE Professional Development-. Webinars can be accessed and materials, including the plan template and the needs assessment templates, can be downloaded <http://ode.state.oh.us/GD/Templates/Pages/ODE/ODEDetail.aspx?page=3&TopicRelationID=1161&ContentID=80455&Content=84826>

Question: How do we get a copy of the Family Friendly Survey for Parents and Staff?

Answer: It is now on the FCF website in the Family Civic Engagement link. The FCF website address is www.hamilton-co.org/hcfcfc/

Question: Can you share research based practices for districts to share to engage families and communities?

Answer: This is the link for promising practices for family engagement:
<http://ode.state.oh.us/GD/Templates/Pages/ODE/ODEDetail.aspx?page=3&TopicRelationID=428&ContentID=78604&Content=82643>

This is the link to the Framework for Building Partnerships among Schools, Families, and Communities. It also includes resources for strategy selection related to family engagement.

<http://ode.state.oh.us/GD/Templates/Pages/ODE/ODEDetail.aspx?page=3&TopicRelationID=428&ContentID=76091&Content=84211>

Question (from ODE website): Does the School Board have to appoint Family and Civic Engagement Team Members by name?

Answer: ODE's legal department reviewed the HB1 language regarding local boards appointment of FCE team members and interpret the language to mean that board members must name their members.

Updated answer as of May 3, 2020: It has been decided that the board does not need to name the members of the district's FCE team, but rather can appoint the required membership. I hope this alleviates some of the concerns districts have had in regard to the earlier guidance